



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 300**

*January Session, 2007*

House Joint Resolution No. 11

*House of Representatives, April 3, 2007*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. CARUSO of the 126th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the joint resolution ought to be adopted.

***RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO ALLOW SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD PERSONS WHO WILL BE EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE AT THE NEXT REGULAR ELECTION TO VOTE IN PRIMARIES RELATED TO SUCH ELECTION.***

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 That the following be proposed as an amendment to the  
2 Constitution of the State, which, when approved and adopted in the  
3 manner provided by the Constitution, shall to all intents and purposes,  
4 become a part thereof:

5 Section 1. Article fourteenth of the amendments to the constitution  
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 Any citizen who will have attained the age of eighteen years on or  
8 before the day of a regular election may apply for admission as an  
9 elector at such times and in such manner as may be prescribed by law,  
10 and, if qualified, shall become an elector on the day of his or her  
11 eighteenth birthday or on the day of a primary held for such regular  
12 election, whichever occurs earlier.

13       RESOLVED: That the foregoing proposed amendment to the  
14 Constitution be continued to the next session of the General Assembly  
15 elected at the general election to be held on November 4, 2008, and  
16 published with the laws passed at the present session, or be presented  
17 to the electors at the general election to be held on November 4, 2008,  
18 whichever the case may be, according to article sixth of the  
19 amendments to the Constitution. The designation of said proposed  
20 amendment to be used on the voting machine ballot labels and  
21 absentee ballots at such election shall be "Shall the Constitution of the  
22 State be amended to permit any person who will have attained the age  
23 of eighteen years on or before the day of a regular election to vote in  
24 the primary for such regular election?"

**GAE**       *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

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### ***OFA Fiscal Note***

#### ***State Impact:***

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Secretary of the State	GF - Cost	None	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

#### ***Municipal Impact:***

Municipalities	Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
All Municipalities	Cost	None	Potential Minimal

### ***Explanation***

The resolution will result in a minimal cost to the Secretary of the State for the printing of posters and explanatory text regarding the constitutional amendment.

The bill could result in a minimal cost to municipalities related to programming and printing the amendment on the new optical scan ballots.

### ***The Out Years***

The fiscal impact identified above would also be incurred in FY 11 to the extent that the general election would occur in November 2010.

**OLR Bill Analysis****HJ 11*****RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO ALLOW SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD PERSONS WHO WILL BE EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE AT THE NEXT REGULAR ELECTION TO VOTE IN PRIMARIES RELATED TO SUCH ELECTION.*****SUMMARY:**

This resolution proposes a constitutional amendment allowing 17-year-olds who will turn 18 on or before the day of the next regular election to vote in its primary. Under the resolution, if such an individual applies and meets the qualifications for admission as an elector, his or her electoral rights attach on the day of the primary.

The ballot designation to be used when the amendment is presented at the general election is: "Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit any person who will have attained the age of eighteen years on or before the day of a regular election to vote in the primary for such regular election?"

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** If the resolution passes by at least three-fourths of the membership of each house of the General Assembly, it will be placed on the 2008 general election ballot. If it passes by a majority of the membership of each house but less than three-fourths, it will be referred to the 2009 session of the legislature. If it passes in that session by a majority of each house, it will appear on the 2010 general election ballot. If a majority of those voting in the general election approves the amendment, it will become part of the state constitution.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea    12    Nay   0    (03/19/2007)